

SF State English
Department
TESOL Talks



Guest Speaker

**Dr. Patricia
Baquedano-López**

Bio:

Patricia Baquedano-López is an Associate Professor for Education at the University of California, Berkeley. She studies the intersection of language, race, and education, with current work on transnational displacements, processes of return migration, and education in the Maya diaspora Yucatan-California.

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Stewarding the Indigenous Language: A Case Study of Maya Families Disrupting Linguistic Erasure



Abstract:

In this talk I draw on my ethnographic research with Indigenous Maya families who migrate between Yucatan and California. Indigenous Maya migrants continue to experience colonial structures of racial domination that dictate modes of language use. Fighting land displacement in Yucatan with relocation to the U.S., Indigenous Maya families often become unintelligible racial Others (Byrd, 2011). This unintelligibility takes root in institutions that misidentify and “Latinize” them. I discuss examples from ethnographic data at the K-5 dual Spanish-English immersion program to illustrate how dominant ideologies of English and Spanish create linguistic peripheries. Indigenous Maya students and parents respond to educational erasure with actions that steward the Indigenous language through linguistic and cultural innovations referencing their sovereign lands.

Monday, February 27, 2023,
from 11:00 - 12:00

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